

Evening Telegraph

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THE FUTURE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

Now that the Commune has been crushed, many speculations are hazarded in regard to the future government of France. The nation has long been divided into three well-defined factions or parties, the Imperialists, the Monarchists, and the Republicans, the two latter being in turn subdivided—the Monarchists into Bourbons and Orleanists, and the Republicans into those who favor a national republic modelled after the United States or Switzerland, and those who would combine socialism and the most cruel and extravagant excesses under the banner of Red Republicanism.

The tendency of recent events has been to strengthen the monarchical party, but it remains to be seen whether they can acquire sufficient influence to regain power. It is reported that the long feud between the Bourbons and Orleanists has at last been healed by a recognition of the claims of the Count de Chambord, representing the old Bourbon line, with the understanding that at his death the succession shall pass to the representative of the presumed legal rights of the Orleanists. Count de Chambord, in his recent conciliatory manifesto, announced that if he was called to the throne he would treat all parties fairly, that he had no enemies to reward and no friends to punish; that he would assume no absolute powers, and that he would be guided in the practical management of public affairs by a Constituent Assembly or Parliament—in other words, that he would rule France very much in the same manner as Queen Victoria rules the United Kingdom. On only one point did he lay special stress—the duty of protecting Papal authority and defending the priesthood. Substantially, his platform combines a union of the two monarchical parties pledged to act fairly to other organizations, a promise of the establishment of a constitutional instead of an absolute monarchy, and a distinct avowal of warm devotion to Catholicism; and this combination renders him a formidable candidate for the French throne.

The Imperial party was so badly damaged by the blunders of Napoleon III that its restoration in his person is impossible. Its hopes are faint enough at best, but all those it now cherishes hinge on a Regency in the interest of the Prince Imperial. Napoleon, in losing the military prestige on which his dynasty was founded, will have lost everything; and if the priesthood totally abandon his fortunes, partly to resent the abandonment of the Pope, and partly on account of the positive assurances held out to them by the Count de Chambord, it will be scarcely possible to restore any form of Bonapartism. One other solution is possible. Despite the disgrace brought upon Red Republicanism in Paris, the Government which crushed the Commune and which has ruled the nation during the last few months illustrates the possibility of maintaining a comparatively just and rational species of republican government; and there is a chance that, after some minor modifications, it may be perpetuated. M. Thiers, its official head, declared a few weeks ago, in the most solemn manner, that he was profoundly attached to such a republic, and that he honestly believed it to be the form of government best adapted to the present needs of France. If he adheres steadfastly to this opinion, casting the whole weight of his influence in support of it, he may reap enduring and well-deserved fame by establishing a permanent French republic.

THE PRESENTMENT OF THE GRAND JURY.

There appears to have been an unusual amount of solid common sense in the composition of the Grand Jury of the May term, and their presentment contains a number of suggestions and points of information that are well worthy the attention of the public in general and of the constituted authorities in particular. This Grand Jury, unlike some of their predecessors, did not find everything lovely in the management of the various public institutions that came under their supervision, but, on the contrary, they saw numerous instances where radical changes and improvements were imperatively demanded. At the beginning of their presentment they alluded, as other grand juries have done, to the necessity of making the committing magistrates salaried officers, and thus removing from them the temptation to make wrongful commitments for the sake of the fees, but in addition to this they called the attention of the court to the fact that aldermen, as well as officers in the State House Row, from the Sheriff down to the lowest official, have the unenviable reputation of making exorbitant and extortionate charges. It is greatly to be feared that this unenviable reputation is much deserved by the Row officers, and it would be highly satisfactory if some citizen who has suffered at their hands would adopt Judge Finletter's suggestion, and commence a prosecution for misdemeanor in office.

In the County Prison the Grand Jury found the air damp and unwholesome from want of proper ventilation, and nearly all of the cells pervaded by an offensive odor highly injurious to the health of the prisoners. Many of the prisoners were unprovided with beds, and young and old were frequently huddled together in one cell, in a manner cruel and demoralizing in the extreme. As a partial remedy for these evils the Grand Jury recommended the immediate enlargement of the prison, but it is obvious that, in addition to this, measures should be taken for a more thorough ventilation of the present building. A large number of those confined in the County Prison owed their

troubles directly or indirectly to the too free use of alcoholic drinks, and in this connection the Grand Jury recommend the passage of a local option law. They, however, animadverted severely upon the non-execution of the present laws for the regulation of the traffic in spirituous liquors. (The Sunday law, in particular, is practically a dead letter, and saloons in all sections of the city carry on their business on Sunday without the slightest attempt at concealment.)

The general management of the Almshouse was found to be satisfactory, the chief difficulty being in the overcrowding of the Insane Department. A remedy for this will shortly be provided in the new buildings now being erected.

With regard to the House of Refuge some very important suggestions were made. The manner in which the institution is conducted excited favorable comment, but the fact that nearly three-fifths of the children admitted were confined on complaint of or at the request of their parents or natural guardians, was alluded to as alarmingly significant. The Grand Jury, with good reason, considered this as an evidence of a disposition on the part of parents and others having the care of children to lightly throw off their most sacred responsibilities. In too many instances when, by reason of parental shortcomings, children become intractable, the parents, instead of honestly seeking to discharge their whole duty towards them, commonly evade it by transferring their offspring to the public charge. Others dispose of their young in this manner because their support is felt to be a burden. It is evident that there is an urgent necessity for reform in this matter, and the suggestion of the Grand Jury that such children as are admitted to the Refuge at the request of parents or guardians shall be maintained, wholly or in part by the same is a wise one. The regret expressed by the Grand Jury at the disuse of the time-honored custom of indenturing the young will be reciprocated by many of our best citizens. It is undoubtedly true that many of the worst evils that afflict society at present are attributable to the decay of the apprenticeship system.

The cleanliness, order, discipline, and especially the ventilation, of the Eastern Penitentiary were spoken of in commendatory terms as being in favorable contrast with the County Prison.

The presentment concluded with an expression of doubt as to the morality of the practice of licensing pawn shops, as many of them are by common repute receptacles of stolen property, and by a compliment to the Paid Fire Department upon its success.

The gentlemen who composed the Grand Jury deserve the thanks of the community for what appears to have been an earnest and intelligent effort to perform the important duties entrusted to them in a proper manner, and a better final presentment than that now under consideration has not been made for a long time.

THE CONQUEST OF ENGLAND.

THE account we print to-day of the invasion of England by Prussia in the year 1875, and the subsequent destruction of the British Empire, has created an unexampled excitement in Europe, and is pronounced the most remarkable magazine article of this generation. The author is said to be Colonel Hamley, of the British army. Assuming to be speaking in the year 1925, the writer tells his grandchildren the momentous story of the invasion, conquest, and annihilation of England fifty years before. The writer begins by describing the peaceful and happy condition of his country in the year 1871. England was then the market-house and the workshop of the world, and her prosperity was unexampled. But soon commenced the mistaken policy which resulted in her overthrow. Her deliberate self-deprivation of allies, caused by her treatment of France in the war with Prussia, the mismanagement of her colonies, and the miserable system of army and navy reduction insisted upon by the ministry in power—these, and many other causes, combined to weaken the lately powerful empire to a pitiable degree. Finally Great Britain conceives the mad folly of annexing Holland. Prussia protests, and John Bull, with proverbial obstinacy and inconsistency, declares war. Events then succeed each other rapidly. An English fleet, sailing from London, is met by a Prussian armada a day's sail from the coast. The English fleet to a ship is destroyed by some newly-fashioned torpedo, the Admiralty having been warned of the device, but failing to profit by the information. The victorious Prussians land on the shores of England. The British army, such as it was at the best, was scattered all over the world, some of it in India, some in Australia, some in America. There was nothing to oppose the German veterans but a mob of hastily recruited volunteers and militia. These are described as being entirely destitute of a commissariat, and with officers who were brave but incompetent. The result was not to be doubted. Marching inland, the Prussians met the English at the town of Dorking, twenty-one miles from London. A battle ensued in which the English were all but annihilated. After this, of course, the occupation of the metropolis, and all of the great cities and towns. The German myriads overran the little island like ants. England's commerce was utterly destroyed, her colonial possessions were wrested from her, and she was saddled with a frightful war indemnity before the victors would leave the soil. When they did so depart, it was to leave Great Britain with no pretense to be ranked in the galaxy of nations. Such is the substance of this remarkable article. Fiercer and yet more quiet satire has been rarely penned. It draws blood at every touch, and yet no keen is the weapon that for the second the victim does not know how badly he is hurt. As a mere piece of story-telling it is a masterpiece. The verisimilitude is complete. The supposed intimate relation of the writer with the scenes he describes has a most convincing effect, and the illusion is to the close wonderfully sustained.

THE REPUBLICAN REGISTRY.

To-morrow afternoon, between the hours of 4 and 8, the annual revision of the Republican registry lists will be made, and on the following Tuesday the primary elections will take place. If the convention held some time since for revising the rules of the party in this city had done its full duty, it would have established the "Crawford county system," whereby every Republican voter could express his first choice for a nominee for every office to be filled. The convention, however, embraced too strong an admixture of the professional politicians for such a radical reform, and they declined to surrender to the people the power which our defective party machinery has enabled them to usurp. The people being denied the privilege of being heard directly in the selection of standard-bearers for the party, it behooves them to make the most of the meagre opportunity to be heard which is presented. Therefore, let every Republican voter make it a point to ascertain to-morrow whether or not his name is on the registry list of his division, in order that he may have an opportunity to be heard at the primary elections of next week. The morning organ of the corrupt ring which expects to manipulate the nominations in its exclusive interest anticipates an average poll of one hundred votes in each of the 350 election divisions of the city; and if this anticipation should be fulfilled, an aggregate of 35,000 votes—or about two-thirds of the active Republicans of the city—would be polled. Such a heavy vote at a primary election has never been known in the past. If the members of the party would turn out in such large numbers, the rule of the ring would be brought to an end, and by the presentation of decent and able candidates, the success of the Republican party in this city would always be a foregone conclusion. Although the masses of the party never have taken such general interest in the primary elections as is desirable, and would give a prospect of reputable nominations, it is not too late for a determined effort in this direction; and, as a preliminary thereto, every Republican voter in the city should see that his name is down on the Registry list to-morrow afternoon. Let all our readers attend to this urgent requirement of an honest, capable, and unimpeachable ticket.

THE COAL BILL.

We understand that the bill pending for the appointment of three inspectors of the anthracite coal sold by retail in Philadelphia was passed at the late session of the Legislature and signed by the Governor. It provides that every ton of anthracite coal retailed here must consist of twenty-two hundred and forty pounds, and it is the duty of the inspectors to see that this provision is rigidly enforced. Some such law was necessary to protect consumers from the tricks of light-weight coal dealers, but henceforth it is to be hoped that they will be compelled to furnish a full legal ton in all cases. In the absence of a proper check there is no telling how small a quantity of coal would eventually be furnished as a ton, and the importance of the subject is materially increased by the exorbitant prices of this great staple which are occasionally produced by strikes and other combinations.

OBITUARY.

Count Agenor Etienne de Gasparin.
The latest mail from Europe brings intelligence of the death recently at Geneva of Count Agenor Etienne de Gasparin, a distinguished French publicist, well-known in this country by his works on the Rebellion.
Count Gasparin was the son of a celebrated rural economist and Minister of State, and was born at Orange on the 4th of July, 1810. In early life he served as private secretary to M. Guizot, while the latter held the position of Minister of Public Instruction in the Cabinet of Louis Philippe, and subsequently acted in the same capacity to his father, when the latter held the office of Minister of the Interior. He also acted for a time as auditor to the Council of State, and in 1842 was elected to the Chamber of Deputies from Basle. An earnest Protestant by birth and conviction, his career in the Chamber was distinguished by the advocacy of liberty for his co-religionists, and of the liberation of slaves. In 1846 he retired permanently from political life.
Count Gasparin was a voluminous writer. In addition to other works, he published "Slavery and the Slave Trade," in 1839; "Christianity and Paganism," in 1850; and "The School of Doubt and the School of Faith: an Essay on Authority in Religion," in 1859. The outbreak of the Rebellion in the United States afforded him the subjects for two remarkable works, which were translated and republished in this country, meeting with a large sale. These were, "The Uprising of a Great Nation," published in 1861, and "America in the Presence of Europe," published in 1863.
During the recent war between Germany and France Count Gasparin wrote a series of newspaper articles advocating the making of Alsace and Lorraine neutral territory.

NOTICES.

WHITE MANEILLES VESTS.
WHITE DUCK VESTS.
LINEN PANTS AND VESTS.
DUCK PANTS AND VESTS.
COLORADO LINEN SACKS.
WHITE DUCK SACKS.
COSTUMES AND VOYAGE SACKS.
DRAB TRAVELLING SACKS.
ALPACA COATS.
DRAB D'ETRE COATS AND SUITS.
LIGHT CASHMERE SUITS.
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OAK HALL,
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OAK HALL,
THE LARGEST CLOTHING HOUSE IN AMERICA,
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Black Hernanities, 63c.
Black Hernanities, 75c.
Black Hernanities, 85c.
Black Hernanities, \$1.00.
Black Hernanities, \$1.10.
Black Hernanities, \$1.25.
Black Hernanities, \$1.35.
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Rich Figured Grenadines, Black Grenadines, Rich Styles, White Grounds, Rich Styles, Stripes Grenadines, 28 and 31c. Figured Grenadines, 31c. Figured Hernanities, 37c. Broche Figures Grenadine, 18c.

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SUMMER DRESS GOODS AT VERY LOW PRICES.

200 Lawn Robes, Side Band Lawns, Rich Organdies, 25 cents, Jaconet Lawns, Brown-ground Lawns, Mourning Lawns, Pink, Buff, Blue, and Green Lawns, Pink, Buff, Blue, and Green Percales, Striped Percales, Figured Percales, Band Percales, Striped Chintzes, Figured and Striped Calicoes.

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